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16 OCT 1957

Dear Hugh,

I am concerned over the low production rate of State in support of the NIS program. Although the authorized NIS staffs in State have been budgeted at adequate levels, their contributions are presently meeting only 35% of scheduled NIS commitments. You will also recall that State's NIS production for fiscal year 1957 was at the lowest level of the past five years.

Related to this low production record is the continued use of NIS personnel to support other State intelligence requirements. Captain Kenneth Knowles, the NIS Program Coordinator, reports that the net cumulative manhours borrowed from the NIS effort during fiscal year 1957 were 7,066, while an additional deficit of 4,310.5 manhours has already occurred during the first quarter of fiscal year 1958.

This Agency has long recognized the advantages accruing from a combined NIS and departmental staff by which NIS staffing support is afforded to the most pressing national intelligence objectives during critical world situations.

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I hope that this expression of our views may assist you in your present examination of this problem and in the development of such remedial measures as are necessary to achieve adequate NIS production.

Sincerely,

ROBERT AMORY, Jr.  
Deputy Director/Intelligence

Mr. Hugh S. Cumming, Jr.  
Director of Intelligence and Research  
Department of State

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